





# Jordan Times

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## Meaningless

TODAY'S first anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is almost a classic non-event. There are still a dwindling band of souls who — out of either naïveté or cynicism — bravely maintain that this treaty with all its accretions has been a vital "first step" towards peace in the Middle East.

But there is precious little evidence that this is true: much to the contrary, it would seem to date to have impeded and arrested the necessary momentum of the true search for peace by substituting questionable facts for sought-after realities.

Egypt has regained the better part of the Sinai, it is true — in line with a disengagement process set in motion long before Camp David. At the same time, however, President Sadat has wilfully accelerated the pace of Zionist political, military and economic penetration into Egypt while Israel has tightened its grip on the Palestinian homeland which he claims to hold so dear. He has put a distance between his people and their Arab and Islamic brethren which they cannot, and surely do not, desire. He has made his country an economic client and adventurist outpost of the United States without producing the concomitant economic or security benefits for his people.

In this first year of its millennial peace, Israel has hardly been the model of pacific propriety. It has cynically and systematically defied both the spirit and the letter of the Camp David accords, particularly through the frenzied establishment of Jewish settlements and the dismantling of indigenous Palestinian institutions. Throughout, of course, it has kept up the inhuman pressures of occupation; it has also extended the bloody hand of aggression into southern Lebanon.

The ringmaster who has introduced all these marvels, President Carter, was enumerating them again the other day. But we would ask Mr. Carter, as he surveys the landscape of the Middle East, even through the blinkers which Washington always wears when looking at this region, if he really sees the prospects for genuine peace as having been enhanced in the past year.

We must also object to Mr. Carter's using the occasion of this anniversary to reiterate, in deliberately provocative language (and to waves of applause from his audience) that "we will not negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, nor will we recognise the PLO unless it accepts Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognises Israel's right to exist... and we oppose the creation of an independent Palestinian state."

Mr. Carter will discover, sooner rather than later, that such sentiments are the true obstacles to the peace to which he claims to aspire. Until the crux of the Arab-Zionist conflict is recognised and approached in an intelligent, compassionate, objective and realistic way, all that Mr. Carter has wrought in the past year will remain meaningless.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: The talks which have started between His Majesty King Hussein and Algerian President Chadli Ben Jedid represent an important step towards fostering joint Arab action in an atmosphere of clear vision and confidence. President Chadli's visit is considered an affirmation of the Algerian presence in the Arab arena. It confirms joint Arab responsibility towards that cause regardless of the geographic location of this Arab country or that.

The latest rapid developments whether they relate to European receptivity for the Arab cause, the Israeli settlement practices and the U.S. attitude towards them, or the possible outcome of the Camp David process, all necessitate a unified Arab approach. The Jordanian-Algerian talks can definitely play a role in achieving this end.

At the international level, the talks re-emphasise Arab determination to work as one force from east to west to make the Arab stand more influential in the European arena.

AL DUSTOUR: There is doubt that Jordan is always keen on promoting a unified Arab stand and this exemplified in the pan-Arab role it efficiently plays for the sake of the Arab cause and solidarity. It is certain that the Algerian leader and his delegation will feel from their close observation of the Jordanian geographic, military and social position the dimensions of the huge responsibilities this Arab bastion has been shouldering since the beginning of the Palestinian issue.

Our Algerian brethren will be acquainted with while they are in Jordan with this situation which gives special meaning to Jordan's pan-Arab stand and special significance to its calls for the building up of indigenous Arab strength and Arab solidarity on a sound foundation in order to face the events, challenges and threats which surround the Arab homeland from east to west.

The Algerian president's visit comes at a time when the Arabs are called upon to encourage the growing European and international understanding of our cause. This visit is significant because it aims at consultation and coordination to link the decisions of the Baghdad summit with the goals and principles of the forthcoming summit in Amman, in order to face the coming important juncture in the path of Arab cause.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Exhibition

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of photos and posters on "advanced Technology" in France. The exhibition can be visited during regular hours until the end of the month.

### Documentary Films

The French Cultural Centre presents, in conjunction with the exhibition on advanced technology, documentary films on electric equipment at 5:30 p.m. The films are "Les constructeurs français de matériel d'équipement électrique" and "L'industrie française de matériel d'équipement électrique."

### British Film

The British Council presents the film of Harold Pinter's "The Caretaker" at 8:00 p.m. The film is directed by Clive Donner and stars Donald Pleasance, Alan Bates and Robert Shaw.

## Annual inflation at 16.4%, February figures indicate

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, March 25 — Jordan's consumer price index went up 2.5 per cent from January to February 1980, according to the "Cost of Living Index" bulletin issued this week by the Department of Statistics.

The cost of living had dropped 0.3 per cent from December to January.

The bulletin indicates that between February 1979 and February 1980, inflation here ran at 16.4 per cent. The rate is considerably higher than the 12.9 per cent increase in the cost of living registered during the 12 month period ending this January and the 11.7 per cent increase recorded during the 1979 calendar year.

The index weights a range of consumer expenditures, including food, clothing and housing costs, and it calculates the increase (or decrease) in the average cost of each item from month to month.

The year 1975 is used as a "base year" with an assigned value of 100.

The latest bulletin gives a cost of living index figure of 174.2 for February 1980, compared to 170 for January and 149.6 for February 1979.

A major reason for the jump in the index was a local price increase in petroleum products announced by the government on Feb. 6 and increases in electricity rates announced the following day.

Soon afterwards bus, service and taxi fares were raised. The overall effect during the month was a 17.5 per cent increase in the cost of household fuels and utilities which had been stable during the seven months previous to February. The bulletin does not give a separate figure for the increase in fuel costs.

Transport costs, which had registered no increase since October, went up 18.6 per cent last month.

Another large factor behind

February's cost of living increase was a 7.9 per cent rise in overall food prices since January. The largest increase was registered in dairy products and eggs (up 7.7 per cent) whose prices are fixed by the Ministry of Supply. The ministry increased the fixed prices on these products in mid-February. February's increase was more than the total price rises in dairy products during 1979.

At the same time, the ministry slightly lowered the price of the meat it sells. Nonetheless, the cost of meat, poultry and fish went up 2.7 per cent during the month.

The prices of vegetables went down 2.9 per cent while those of fruits went up by the same percentage. Cereals and bakery products registered a 2.3 per cent gain; other foods went up three per cent during February.

In all other categories prices remained at their January level throughout February with the exception of alcoholic beverages (up 0.1 per cent).

## U.N. Palestinian Rights Committee seeks urgent Security Council meeting

UNITED NATIONS, March 25 (Agencies)—The president of the U.N. Security Council scheduled private talks today with non-aligned members of the council on a request for an urgent meeting on Palestinian statehood.

Jamaican Ambassador Donald Mills, council president for March, arranged the talks after the U.N. Committee on Palestinian Rights submitted a request last night that the council meet on the subject by next Monday.

The action came during the U.S. presidential primary campaign in which Middle East policy is a hot issue.

The written request, signed by committee chairman Fallou Kane of Senegal and made public today, asked that the council "convene urgently to consider the recommendations of the committee" and cited a 1979 General Assem-

bly resolution saying the council should do that by March 31, 1980.

The recommendations include complete Israeli withdrawal from territory occupied in the 1967 Middle East war, repatriation of Palestinian refugees and establishment of an independent Palestinian entity. The committee issued them in 1976 and the United States vetoed them in the Security Council that same year.

Mr. Kane's letter touched on a sore spot for U.S. President Jimmy Carter in saying that "developments evolving in the occupied Palestine and other occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem, constitute continuing violations by Israel of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people."

"Occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem," is a phrase that occurs repeatedly in a resolution against Israeli settlements in occupied territories that the council adopted March 1 with the United States joining in a unanimous vote.

A few days later, Mr. Carter said he would have ordered a U.S. abstention had he known that Jerusalem was mentioned in the resolution. The vote and his dis-

avowal of support for the resolution have become an American political issue.

In another letter to the council president submitted yesterday, issued today, the committee chairman commented on Israeli government's decision to establish what purports to be educational institutions in Arab West Bank city of Hebron.

"Israel's defiant policy," wrote, "seriously threatens search for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and calls for urgent action by the Security Council."

The recommendation of Palestinian rights committee has been repeatedly endorsed by U.N. General Assembly which declared last November that if Security Council did not take action by March 31 this year committee should try other alternatives.

The likely alternative would be the summoning of a special General Assembly session devoted solely to the Palestinian question already proposed by non-aligned group of states, including more than 90 U.N. members.

## Local News Briefs

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — His Majesty King Hussein today sent a cable of good wishes to the President of Greece, Mr. Constantine Tsatsos, on the country's National Day.

AMMAN, March 25 (JT) — Domestic exports increased 33 per cent from September 1978 to September 1979, according to figures released by Dr. Burhan Shraydeh, Director of the Department of Statistics yesterday. During the same period imports increased by 65 per cent. Jordan's domestic exports totalled JD 6.4 million during September 1979 compared to JD 4.8 million in September 1978. The principal exported commodities were phosphates (31 per cent), wood construction materials (nine per cent), cigarettes (eight per cent) vegetables (five per cent) and women's and children's clothing (three per cent). The value of goods imported during September amounted to JD 61.2 million, compared to JD 37.2 million in September 1978. The principal imports were machinery and equipment (14 per cent), crude oil (nine per cent), vehicles and spare parts (nine per cent) and construction equipment (eight per cent).

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — The board of directors of the Agricultural Credit Corporation today approved loans totalling JD 242,000 to 33 agricultural projects in different parts of the country. A corporation source said that the board also agreed in principle to participate in the cost of drilling artesian wells for agricultural projects and to buy shares in local firms.

AMMAN, March 25 (JT) — A team of Japanese electronics specialists is due in Amman tomorrow to discuss training Jordanian technicians and Japanese-Jordanian cooperation. The team will meet with specialists at the Electronics Service and Training Centre of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the Telecommunications Corporation, Jordan Radio and Jordan Television as well as the Directorate of Civil Aviation. Talks will concern training Jordanian staff in the use of electronic equipment provided by Japan to the RSS in accordance with an agreement signed in Amman in 1978. The team's stay in Jordan is expected to last two weeks.

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — The contribution of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to a number of Jordanian projects was discussed at a meeting held here today between government officials and Mr. Azzam Azzam, the director of the agency's programmes at the regional office in Beirut, who arrived here for a week's visit today. Mr. Azzam met with officials at the Ministries of Labour and Education and at the National Planning Council to discuss UNICEF's participation in development of the labour force and development schemes in Jordan. At a meeting with the Minister of Social Development, Mrs. In'am Mufli, Mr. Azzam reviewed programmes being carried out in Jordan with UNICEF's participation. These include the development of motherhood and child care and social development centres in Jordan. They also explored areas where UNICEF can contribute to the ministry's programmes for 1980. UNICEF also has a share in other health, education and rural development projects.



Mr. Gunther Knies, Cultural Attaché at the German Embassy, (far right) Tuesday presents prizes of radio-cassette recorders to the three winners of a listeners' contest of the Arabic service of Deutsche Welle (Voice of Germany). The winners, Mr. Amer Abul Rab, Mr. Ali Fahd Ali Baker, and Mr. Jamal Hussein Soleiman, are all from Irbid.

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — The Minister of Industry and Trade, Mr. Ali Nsour, today reviewed Spanish Jordanian economic and trade relations with the Spanish Ambassador, Don Luis Pedrosa. The minister also reviewed bilateral economic and trade relations with the Bulgarian Ambassador, Mr. Stefan Mitev. They discussed subjects on the agenda of the Bulgarian-Jordanian joint committee which will convene in September and Jordan's participation in an international fair which will open in the Bulgarian city of Plovdiv in summer.

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — The Minister of Communications today opened a direct telephone link with Japan via a satellite operating over the Indian Ocean, the Minister of Communications, Dr. Mohammad Al Zaben, announced today. He said contacts are being made with Libya and Iran to determine the volume of telephone communications with these two countries with the aim of starting direct telephone links with them. The ministry recently opened direct links with Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Spain through the satellite station, the minister said.

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — The Ministry of Supply today denied that it had sold merchants quantities of frozen fish which had gone bad. A ministry source said the import and distribution of fish in the country are subject to strict control by the ministry and fish samples are continually sent to the laboratory for tests before any transactions are made. It is when merchants display the sea food outside refrigerators for a long time that they go bad, the source said. He announced that the Ministry of Supply is temporarily suspending the sale of fish to a number of merchants and appealed to the public to report any contaminated meat or fish they might spot in the market.

AMMAN, March 25 (JNA) — The visiting Romanian Minister of State for Industrial Buildings, Mr. Ion Stanescu, today met with Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Nsour to review Jordanian-Romanian economic cooperation. They looked into progress in the third phase of expanding the Jordan Petroleum Refinery, and electricity projects in which Romania has a share.

AMMAN, March 25 (JT)—The Greek Ambassador Mr. Constantin Eliopoulos, held a reception today at the embassy on the occasion of Greek National Day. The reception was attended by a number of dignitaries and their wives.

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# Swedish Home offers handicapped kids a brighter future

Text and photos  
Ron Cathell  
Times Staff Reporter

On March 25 -- It's not schoolrooms are specially designed. And the school is specially designed. All the students are they are Jordan's less children who were born handicapped.

At the Swedish Home as bright and energetic young Jordanians. Others are so severely disabled they can't walk, talk or see.

There are 26 children with all types of a mental and physical handicap. They are cared for and at this unusual school on a hill just south of the University Road through the plight of the handicapped is sad and pressing, there is a sense of Swedish Homes and feeling of optimism for students. The Swedish Home is the opportunity to learn a trade and to learn a degree of independence and productivity.

It is to train them so they can take a job and earn the world," says Miss Sehlin, the Swedish Home's administrator. She is popularly known as "Miss Sehlin" to everyone at the school.

She walks through the halls and classrooms to see how the children are doing. She is incredibly fond of them as they are of all the handicaps. The children are between them is a casual visitor. She is on a very personal visit to the Jordanian Home. She visited a section of the most severely disabled. She found out that the children suffer from different mental disorders. Some are retarded and a few suffer from a protein disease that causes a central nervous system.

DAY'S FATHER  
The father will continue to be a medium and high surface wind will be variable. In Agaba it will be with southerly moderate to heavy seas.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES  
Overnight Daytime  
Low High  
10 24  
18 34  
12 28  
15 30  
306.00/308.00  
670.00/674.00  
161.80/162.80  
171.10/172.10  
69.70/70.10  
100 34.80/35.00  
100 122.80/123.50  
147.80/148.70  
69.40/69.80  
100.10/100.70



A donkey-cart is a thrill to this group of severely handicapped kids

"There is a high incidence here of retardation, blindness and deafness," Miss Sehlin said. "This is the tragedy in Jordan. When we find families with several handicapped children we usually learn their parents are first cousins, as were their parent's parents and their parents before them. This country is full of such stories." She explained that when close relatives, such as first cousins, intermarry they reduce the gene pool, or possible genetic combinations. This is a major cause for many children being born here with a handicap. But with better education, the people are slowly moving away from such marriages, she noted. Miss Sehlin explained that there are three degrees of mental retardation; mild, moderate and severe.

Only those with severe cases live at the home and are cared for round the clock by a team of 20 specially trained caretakers. Some of the 36 severely handicapped are hyperactive, others can only grovel on the floor or sit in a chair like a vegetable. These children are too handicapped to learn any skills or to read and write, unlike the mildly and moderately handicapped.

The Swedish Home takes in severely handicapped children when their families are either too poor to afford proper care for them or can't offer the constant attention they demand.

For now, the Home is operating at full boarding capacity, but Miss Sehlin points out there are hundreds more cases like these in Jordan. To help cope with the situation in the Amman region, the home offers services to these families. One specially trained

social worker from the Swedish Home visits 50 families to train the mothers on how to care for their exceptional children. The Swedish Home also offers financial assistance to these 50 families.

"There is such need for this kind

of help, especially in the severely retarded cases, that we try to do as much as we can in this way," she said. Next month another social worker will return from the United States after completing her special training. The Swedish



These two boys sharpen their wits by matching the blocks with the correct pictures.



This boy enjoys learning carpentry at the Swedish Home.

Home has offered this home-training services since it started in 1968 "because we knew we couldn't take in many severe cases," Miss Sehlin explained.

Those suffering from the mild and moderate forms of mental retardation can attend classes at the school and learn to read and write. They are divided into age groups as well as levels of proficiency in studies. Some receive special training, such as how to identify vegetable names and colours with the corresponding picture. They also are shown how to develop their motor reflexes and coordination. Some undergo physical therapy.

The students start the day at 8 a.m. like thousands of Jordan's schoolchildren. They are collected from their homes by four buses belonging to the home and returned after school ends at 1 p.m. Their schoolwork is similar to that in a normal school but is less advanced. Some classes are academic, in others they are taught art or learn the names of animals and household utensils.

All the schoolchildren display a remarkable eagerness for and joy in learning, and each one is a model of discipline and courtesy. During a reading class one boy was overly energetic and bumped another boy in the head with his

elbow, causing him to cry. So the active boy quickly apologised, shook his friend's hand and all was forgotten.

Ages of the schoolchildren range from six to 14. Those over 14 advance to the vocational training centre where girls learn such skill as weaving and embroidery and boys learn trade skills such as carpentry. They remain at the centre, where they also receive some academic schooling, until they are about 18. Then they progress to the workshop where they receive practical training as the last step before leaving the home. At this stage they "receive

a little salary so they can feel as though they are real workers." One 20-year-old boy has stayed at the home and become a well-paid gardener, and an exceptionally bright girl has also stayed on to work with the schoolchildren.

Although the Swedish Home is now operating at full capacity, it hopes to be able to accept more schoolchildren in the future. Every week families come to enroll their children, but must be turned away. However, the home registers their names, the type of case and cure requested, economic background and other pertinent information to enable the



Art class is always fun at any school.

administrators to decide what priority to assign the child for enrolment. When there is an opening, the family at the top of the ever-changing list is contacted.

The Swedish Home is selective in whom it accepts. It wants children who show an eagerness to learn and who can interact positively with the other children. There are no tuition fees or charges, but the home does accept whatever contributions the families can afford. The Jordanian government covers 10 per cent of the home's operational budget. The rest comes from voluntary contributions collected internationally by the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief, the parent organisation of the Swedish Home, established in 1938.

The first Swedish Home in Jordan began with six children in Jerusalem just two months before the 1967 war. It was started by Miss Sehlin but is now run under the Israeli military occupation forces.

Miss Sehlin came to Amman in 1968 and started another home which operated out of two villas until 1975, when the entire operation was moved to the present facility. "During those seven years (1968-1975) we were very cramped and we had time to know what we needed and wanted, so there was time for proper planning and building," she said.

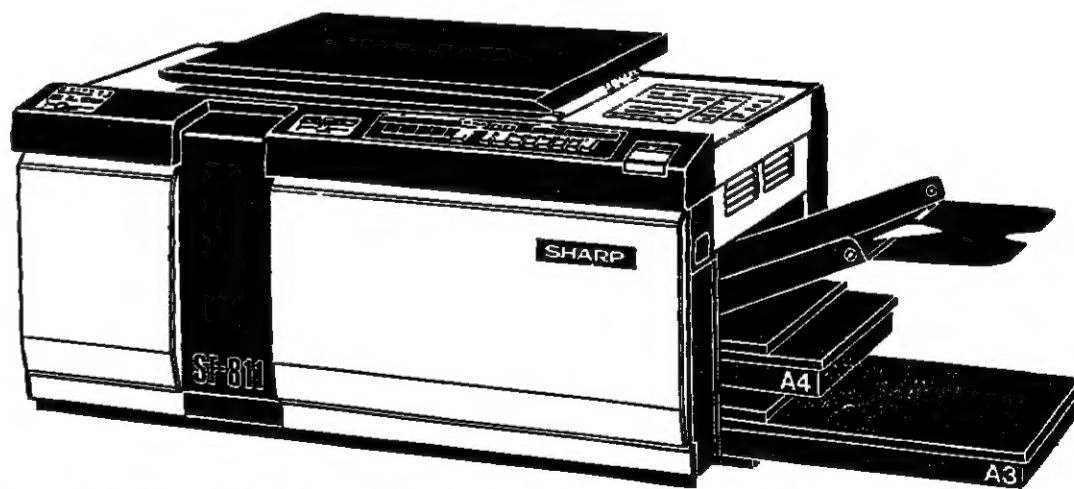
It shows. The Swedish Home consists of seven white stone buildings of modern design with aluminium-framed doors and windows. Each building serves a certain function: a care home for the severely handicapped; administrative offices; kitchen and dining room for serving hot meals daily; schoolrooms; a vocational training centre; a practical workshop; and housing for older children with extreme cases.

The home requires a staff of 60, including cooks, bus drivers, housekeepers, 20 caretakers and three supervisors, seven school teachers, four vocational training and workshop teachers and one social worker.

The home offers courses and training for Jordanians to become teachers and caretakers of the handicapped. Only four of the staff are Swedish. The rest are Jordanian who received their initial training while working with the mentally handicapped at the Swedish Home.

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Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Co.	JD 5,000	200	5,700	5,700	5,700
Jordan Dairy Co.	JD 1,000	100	1,450	1,450	1,450
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	21,237	1,530	1,480	1,520
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	500	1,450	1,450	1,450
Jordan National Bank	JD 1,000	20	14,800	14,800	14,800
Arab Bank Co.	JD 10,000	50	125,000	125,000	125,000
Cairo-Amman Bank	JD 5,000	50	14,100	14,100	14,100
Dar Aida Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	800	4,340	4,330	4,330
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	1,222	3,350	3,300	3,300
Arab Co. for Paper Manufacture and Trade	JD 1,000	100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Jordan General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	300	1,420	1,410	1,410
Arab Co. for Aluminium Industries	JD 1,000	400	1,660	1,660	1,660
Irbid District Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	100	1,100	1,100	1,100
International Construction and Investment	JD 1,000	3150	1,060	1,050	1,050
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD 10,000	100	21,300	21,300	21,300
Jordan Glass Factories Co.	JD 1,000	450	1,300	1,300	1,300
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	100	0,980	0,980	0,980
Garage Owners Federation Office Co.	JD 1,000	700	0,880	0,880	0,880
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1,000	50	5,400	5,400	5,400
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 1,000	1,250	2,660	2,660	2,660
Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Co.	JD 5,000	499	10,340	10,330	10,330
	JD 1,000	500	1,250	1,250	1,250

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# Japan's inflation worsens to 10 %

TOKYO, March 25 (R) — The powerful Japanese economy has been hit by accelerating inflation but there seems little the government can do about it in the immediate future.

The major problems have been hefty oil price rises, higher prices for other imported commodities such as silver and copper following international unrest over Iran and Afghanistan and soaring inflation in some of Japan's big trading partners, especially the United States.

As a result, the yen has fallen heavily since reaching a peak of 175.50 to the U.S. dollar 18 months ago. This has increased the cost of Japanese imports and the country's balance of payments position has deteriorated sharply.

Many economists believe that inflation in Japan, which imports virtually all its oil, will be around 10 per cent in the financial year starting next month and remain at a relatively high level for several years.

It seems probable there will be a slowdown in Japan's economic growth, which has been a major force helping to pull the world out of the economic slump triggered

by the 1973 oil crisis.

In an effort to keep a rise in the fiscal 1980 consumer price index to an official target of 6.4 per cent, compared with a 3.4 per cent rise in 1978, the Tokyo government has introduced a series of measures. But conscious of a general election this summer for the 252-seat upper house of the Diet (parliament), where the ruling conservative Liberal Democrats have only a slim majority, the government has emerged so far with measures that are more psychological than concrete.

The latest package, following measures announced last November designed mainly to curb oil consumption by voluntary means, includes continued tight credit and deferred public works spending. The mass-circulation Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper called the measures disappointing and urged firmer and more drastic moves.

"There has been much criticism of the U.S. government's anti-inflation package... as being too lukewarm. However, President Carter at least disclosed such concrete steps as balancing the federal budget, imposing a tax on imported oil and controls on credit

cards," the influential newspaper added. It urged the government to give priority to preventing manufacturers from raising prices following higher gas and electricity charges.

At a meeting to decide the latest package, the cabinet agreed to allow the companies to raise their charges by 51 and 45 per cent respectively from April to keep pace with higher oil costs. The increases are expected to boost the consumer price index in fiscal 1980 by between two and four per cent. According to informed sources, the government will leave any more measures until after the summer.

Although many business leaders and economists welcomed the timing of the package, which they saw as short-term, they said its psychological effect would depend largely on the size of wage increases being sought by Japanese workers.

So far Japan's two largest labour organisations, the General Council of Trade Unions (Sohyo) and the Confederation of Labour (Domei), supporters of main opposition parties in the Diet, are seeking increases of about eight

per cent in the annual *shunto*, or spring wages offensive, which reaches a climax next month. However, some unions, notably those with railway members, are demanding 12 per cent or more. All these demands could be raised if figures for March show that inflation is gaining momentum.

The latest anti-inflation package is also a further attempt to boost the yen's value on the foreign exchange market and so help curb inflation. At present, the yen is trading at a rate of about 249 to the dollar. This month the Bank of Japan raised its official discount rate, the annual interest charged on its loans, for the fifth time in 11 months to nine per cent, described by one paper as a "crisis level."

The Central Bank's move was designed to tighten credit and narrow differentials between interest rates in Japan and those in other countries, which are considerably higher, to make the yen more attractive to foreign investors and curb capital outflows from Japan. But foreign exchange dealers and bankers here do not expect any big change in the yen's value, at least until the middle of this year, mainly because of the higher over-

seas interest rates.

There are signs too, that Japan's balance of payments position is improving following a recent surge in exports, which are helping to offset the higher cost of imports, mainly oil. Capital spending at factories is expanding steadily.

Inflation during the current year fiscal 1979, is expected to rise by about five per cent from 1978. But a trend towards higher Japanese inflation has been noticeable since November, 1978, when the wholesale price index began to climb.

Last month, the index rose by 2.6 per cent over January, its steepest monthly gain in six years giving a 21.4 per cent jump from February of last year. It is estimated that wholesale prices will take six months at least to penetrate consumer prices, much longer than in other countries owing to Japan's complex distribution system.

A major question now is what course the Japanese economy, the second largest after the United States in the non-communist world, will take.

Although the Bank of Japan predicts expansion at least to the middle of this year, many government and private economists believe the economy might now be at a peak. Some economists express doubts whether the current price spiral can be controlled effectively with tighter credit restrictions.

They believe too tight a rein on credit at a time of higher oil prices as well as increased gas and electricity charges, will have a deflationary effect.

After the Bank of Japan raised its official discount rate on March 18, the major private Yamaichi Research Institute predicted that Japan's real economic growth will slow in fiscal 1980 to about 4.3 per cent from 6.2 per cent this year.

## Turkey increases petroleum prices

ANKARA, March 25 (R) — Turkey today raised the prices of petrol and other oil-based fuels by between 2.5 and 12.5 per cent, according to the official gazette.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, March 25 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today:

One pound sterling	2.1910/29	U.S. dollar	U.S. cents
One Canadian dollar	83.97/84.00	West German marks	
One U.S. dollar	1.8950/60	Dutch guilders	
	2.0720/30	Swiss francs	
	1.7898/7908	Belgian francs	
	30.50/54	French francs	
	4.3960/75	Italian lire	
	880.75/881.75	Japanese yen	
	248.95/249.05	Swedish crowns	
	4.4000/10	Norwegian crowns	
	5.0955/65	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	5.9205/10	U.S. dollars	
	533.00/540.00		

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, March 25 — Gold shares closed lower while other stocks ended quietly mixed, dealers said. At 1500 the F.T. index was up 0.6 at 427.8.

Gold shares declined as much as \$4 in line with the earlier bullion price. Elsewhere, trading was subdued due to uncertainty over tomorrow's U.K. budget. Government bonds moved up to a point higher on the back of sterling strength. Oils eased while banks and industrials showed small movements either way. U.S. and Canadian stocks finished lower.

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CAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAR. 26, 1980

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

by the Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day and evening when peculiar conditions exist so be sure not to commit to any new course of action that could lead you in a new direction. Be alert.

**S (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Don't be taken in by some one that looks good but may be deceptive and could cause a great loss. Be wise.

**US (Apr. 20 to May 20)** The situation at home is deceiving, but say little now and plan how to handle wisely. You can profit from this.

**NI (May 21 to June 21)** Concentrate on how to use more instead of spending money like there's no end. Don't let others impose on you.

**CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** You have to be careful in handling money at this time if you wish possible heavy losses.

**July 22 to Aug. 21** You may think you can do as you actually can, so be more practical and use your fine intuitive faculties now.

**O (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** A private matter is not it seems to be, so check and double-check all figures before making a decision.

**A (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Accept only the best of us for later in the day, and show others that you do. Strive for increased happiness.

**PIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Make sure you don't take a career affairs or you could regret it later, or more harmony at home.

**TIARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** You are able to use new outlets that could produce added income in the state your aims clearly to associates.

**ICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Study both assets and liabilities well so that you know exactly where you stand. Sidestep a troublemaker.

**RIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Obtain the data you need in the right sources. Then look into new avenues of action that can add to your income.

**S (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Get busy and remove what is not suitable in your environment. Handle all ahead of you in a positive fashion.

### Italy firms against soccer scandal

ROME March 25 (AP)—Gian Franco Casarsa, the forward of Perugia's major league team sought in connection with Italy's soccer scandal today surrendered to authorities in Rome's Queen of Heaven prison. Casarsa, a teammate of Italy's most highly paid star Paolo Rossi, had missed a wave of arrests in various Italian stadiums last Sunday because he had been left out of the lineup and had missed the Roma-Perugia championship match.

He joined 12 other celebrated soccer stars and a club president arrested on charges of aggravated swindle in a case of bribes allegedly offered to the players in attempts to fix matches in favour of an illegal betting ring. Casarsa is to be questioned tomorrow by the Roman judges investigating the most sensational scandal in Italy's soccer history, which could produce life disqualification of players found guilty and demotion to the second division of some major league teams, including prestigious Milan and Lazio of Rome.

Judges, whose investigation was triggered by a suit by persons described as disgruntled bettors, yesterday questioned some of those arrested and brought into the Rome prison Sunday night. Meanwhile, soccer authorities announced that the major league championship, six rounds still to go, will continue regularly despite the arrests. Internazionale of Milan, which is leading the overall standings with a six-point lead over Juventus and Roma, has no players involved in the case. However, sporting authorities could not hide that the scandal was shaking the prestige of Italian soccer.

Some Italian sport dailies reported that staging of the final round of the European Cup of Nations, scheduled in Italy June 11-22, was in doubt because of the scandal. But Italian Soccer Federation officials insisted that plans for the European Cup matches in various Italian cities were progressing regularly. They also emphasised that any action against the players would have to await the court's final decision.

### Yugoslavia, Italy compete over Korac Cup

LIEGE, Belgium, March 25 (R)—Arrigoni Rieti of Italy meet Cibona Zagreb of Yugoslavia in tomorrow's men's European

Korac Basketball Cup final here in an attempt to win the trophy which narrowly eluded them last year. Arrigoni were beaten 108-99 by Partizan Belgrade of Yugoslavia in last year's final.

The Italian team clinched their place in tomorrow's clash despite losing the second leg of their semi-final against another Yugoslav side, Jugoplastika of Split.

Arrigoni went down 104-97 after extra-time, but as they had won the first leg 86-75, they reached the final with a four-point victory on aggregate.

Both Arrigoni and Cibona are in the top half of their national leagues, but had to survive some tough games in the European campaign. The final is expected to be a hard-fought clash, typical of previous matches between Yugoslav and Italian clubs.

### Asian pre-Olympic soccer results

KUALA LUMPUR, March 25 (R)—Japan beat the Philippines 10-0 (halftime 5-0) in an Asian group Two Olympic qualifying soccer match here yesterday.

In another match, Brunei scored an unexpected 3-2 (2-2) win over Indonesia. Brunei beat the Philippines 2-0 on Saturday. Japan's victory yesterday was the first in the six-nation tournament. They lost 3-1 to South Korea on Saturday.

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## THE Daily Crossword by Herb L. Risteen

**ACROSS**

1 Bound along  
5 Kitchen gadget  
10 Fear  
14 Next as —  
15 Lariat  
16 Withric comb. form  
17 Wrestling style  
20 English cathedral town  
21 Unctuous  
22 Suspicious  
23 Be pensive  
24 Sashes  
25 Terms in office  
29 Tropical flower

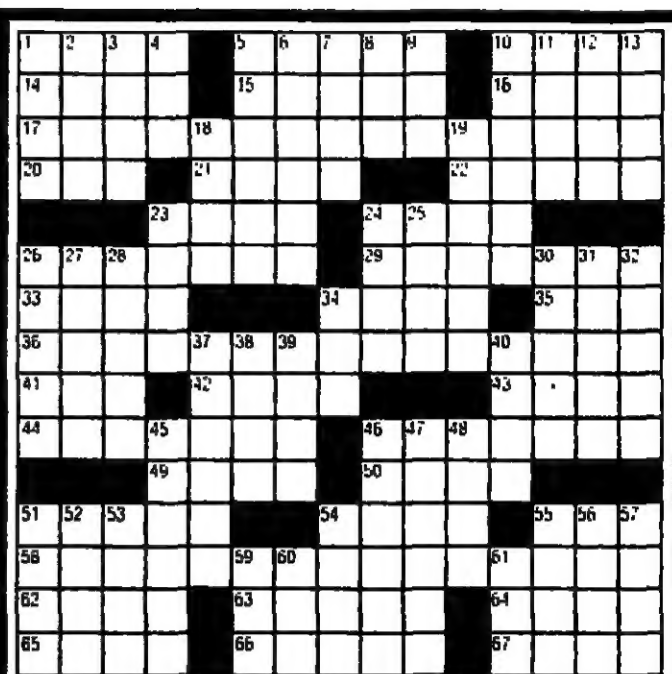
**DOWN**

1 Trimming  
2 Ring stoge  
3 Compassion  
4 Large book; abbr.  
5 Kudos  
6 Bridal paths  
7 Vigorous  
8 Schedule abbr.  
9 Go back on  
10 Command  
11 Formerly  
12 Excel  
13 Rabbit fur  
14 Eleventh —  
19 Outpatient department  
23 Farm animal

**33 Soviet sea**  
**34 Caesar's "I came"**  
**35 Indian**  
**36 Marries**  
**41 Comp. pt.**  
**42 Ball of thread**  
**43 Central part**  
**44 Certain British soldier**  
**46 Marked, in a way**  
**48 "— great day for..."**  
**50 Root edge**  
**51 Secret society acronym**

**54 Draped garment**  
**55 Winglike part**  
**58 Speaking stoppage**  
**62 Indigo**  
**63 Removes, in printing**  
**64 Farm implement**  
**65 Prescribed amount**  
**66 Long time periods**  
**67 Sibley or pup**

**24 Margarine**  
**25 Group**  
**26 Less feral**  
**27 Wipe out**  
**28 Stripped**  
**30 Fur magnate**  
**31 Mother-of-pearl**  
**32 Felt discomfort**  
**34 Swear**  
**37 Too bad!**  
**38 "I — kick out of you"**  
**40 Palestine port**  
**45 Coleridge**  
**46 Stupa**  
**47 Touch lovingly**  
**48 Tel —**  
**51 Type of school; abbr.**  
**52 — War**  
**53 Amos of basalt**  
**54 Normandy town**  
**55 Do office work**  
**56 Sacred object**  
**57 Salamander**  
**59 Lupino**  
**60 Formerly known as**  
**61 Make a choice**



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## JOHN BRIDGE

**WESLEY H. GOREN**  
**JOHN BRIDGE**  
by Chicago Tribune

**1 INT Pass 3 ♦ Pass**  
What action do you take?

**Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠ 7 ♠ AK872 ♠ KQ64 ♠ AK  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
3 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass  
What action do you take?

**Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ A83 ♠ 10763 ♠ 9532 ♠ AQ  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
Pass 1 ♦ Dble. Pass  
What action do you take?

**Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ Q8 ♠ AK107 ♠ K985 ♠ K103  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ 1 ♦ 1 NT Pass  
What action do you take?

**Q.8—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ KJ10 ♠ QJ106 ♠ A105 ♠ A63  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ ?  
What do you bid now?

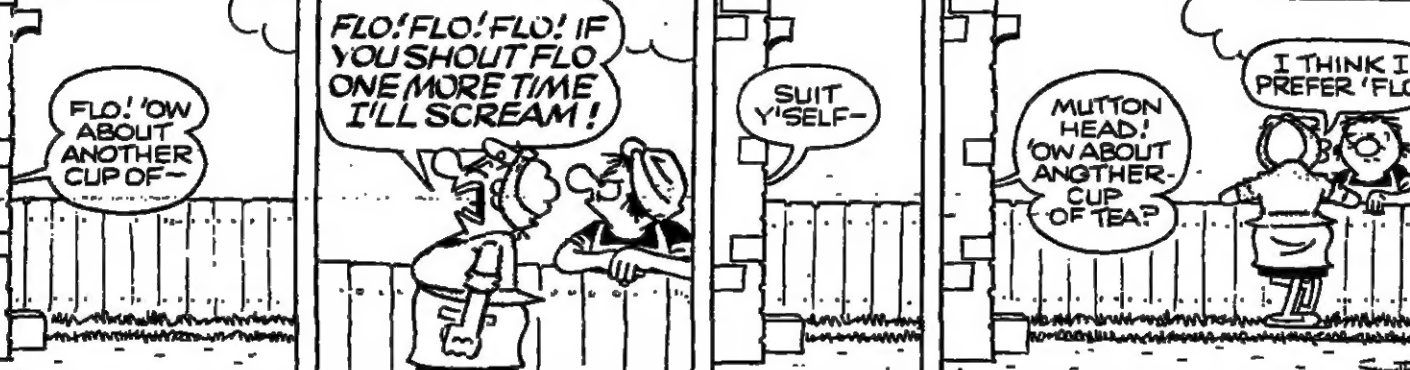
**Q.9—South, vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ A982 ♠ AK64 ♠ Q6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
Pass 2 ♦ Pass  
Pass 3 ♦ ?  
What do you take?

**Q.10—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ 10 ♠ AQ92 ♠ Q985  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
What do you take?

### Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



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**CHANNEL 3**

6:00 Koran  
6:15 Varieties  
6:30 Soccer (Iraq v. Bahrain)  
6:45 Cartoons  
6:50 Arabic play  
7:10 Return to Peyton Place  
8:00 News in Arabic  
8:30 Arabic series  
9:30 A special programme on Algeria  
10:15 Rockford Files  
11:10 News in Arabic

**CHANNEL 6**

6:30 French programme  
7:00 News in French  
7:30 News in Hebrew  
8:30 Comedy  
9:30 A horsemanship riding by 10:00 News in English  
10:15 Rockford Files

### RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on  
7:10 Morning Show  
7:30 News Bulletin  
7:40 Morning Show  
8:00 News Headlines  
8:05 Morning Show  
8:30 30 Minute Theatre  
11:00 Sign off  
12:00 Sign on and News Headlines  
12:05 Radiotheque  
13:00 News Summary  
13:05 Radiotheque  
14:00 News Bulletin  
14:10 Music  
14:30 French Music  
15:00 Concert Hour  
16:00 News Summary  
16:30 Easy Listening  
16:35 Old Favorites  
17:00 David Copperfield  
17:30 Radiotheque  
18:00 News Summary  
18:45 Play of the Week  
19:00 News Bulletin  
19:10 News Reports  
19:30 Sign off

### AMMAN AIRPORT

**ARRIVALS:**  
7:00 Cairo (EA)  
9:25 Algiers

### DEPARTURES:

7:30 Beirut  
8:00 Amman  
8:45 Beirut (MEA)  
8:55 Cairo (EA)  
9:25 Rome (IAZ)  
10:00 Athens, Amsterdam (KLM)  
11:00 Baghdad  
12:00 London  
13:00 Cairo  
14:00 Kuwait (KAC)  
14:15 Larnaca, Bucharest (Taron)  
14:30 Baghdad (IA)  
14:40 Jeddah (SDI)  
14:50 Larnaca (CY)  
15:30 Cairo  
16:30 Damascus  
16:35 Dubai, Ras Al Khaima  
17:30 Kuwait  
17:40 Cairo (EA)  
17:50 Baghdad  
18:00 Doha, Muscat (RJ/GF)  
18:45 Ramatallah (BA)

### EMERGENCIES

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Amman  
Tulma Faweh (23566/21588) -  
Said Rashid (73500)  
Jalila  
Ibrahim Rahatli (27961)  
Zagreb  
Fahd Abu 'Egah (83608/8292)  
Pharmacies:  
Amman  
Abu Ghumel (25200)  
Al Khatayib (25010)

### Y'allah (24425)

10:00  
Al Awa  
Zagreb  
Al Khatayib  
Amman (23230)  
Khalid (23715)  
Al Shalal (21091)  
Rania (22095)

### BBC RADIO

**GMT**  
6:00 Newsday  
6:30 Sounds that Sold a Million  
6:45 Financial News: Reflections  
6:50 News: 24 Hours  
6:55 Nature Notebook  
6:58 The World Today  
6:59 Newsday  
6:59 Jazz for the Asking  
6:59 News: 24 Hours  
6:59 Masters of Early Music  
6:59 News: Reflections  
6:59 News: British Press Review  
6:59 The World Today  
6:59 Financial News: Look Ahead  
6:59 Tony Mazar Report  
6:59 The Count and the Wedding Guest  
10:30 John Peel  
11:00 News: News about Britain  
11:05 Take One  
11:10 Farming World  
11:15 Radio Newsworld  
12:15 Thirty Minute Theatre  
12:45 Sports Round-up  
13:00 News: 24 hours  
13:30 A Generation of Giants  
14:15 Report on Religion  
14:30 Beryl Grey's World of Ballet  
15:00 Radio Newsworld  
15:15 Outlook  
16:00 News: Commentary  
16:15 Land and People  
16:40 The World Today  
17:00 News: Book Choice  
17:15 The Art of Alfred Brendel  
17:45 Sports Round-Up  
18:00 News: News about Britain  
18:15 Radio Newsworld  
18:30 Top Twenty  
19:00 Outlook  
19:30 Stock Market Report  
19:45 Report on Religion  
20:00 News: 24 Hours  
20:30 Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy  
21:00 Network U.K.  
21:15 International Soccer Special  
21:30 News: The World Today  
22:25 Book Choice: Financial News  
22:40 Reflections  
23:45 Sports Round-up  
23:50 News: Commentary

### VOICE OF AMERICA

**GMT**  
6:30 The Breakfast Show:  
6:30 News, pop music, features, listener questions.  
17:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analysis.  
17:30 Special English: news, feature "Spice and Meat."  
18:30 News Music USA  
19:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analysis.  
19:30 VO's Magazine: American science, culture, letters.  
20:00 Special English: news  
20:15 Music USA (Live)  
21:00 VOA World Report  
22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, music, commentaries, analysis.

### CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre ..... 41520  
British Council ..... 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre ..... 37009  
Gosle Institute ..... 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 42003  
Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 36049  
Hayat Arts Centre ..... 65195  
Hebrew Youth City ..... 41793  
Y.W.C.A. ..... 64251  
Amman Municipal Library ..... 36111  
University of Jordan Library ..... 65111  
Chadli Museum ..... 36191  
Folklore Museum ..... 36191

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government) ..... 75111  
Civil defence rescue ..... 36391-4  
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) ..... 36391-2  
Municipal water service (emergency) ..... 37111-3  
Police headquarters ..... 39141  
Najdah saving patrol rescue police, (English speaking) 24 hours a day for emergency ..... 21112, 37777  
Airport information (ALIA) ..... 52005  
Jordan Television ..... 73111  
Radio, English Service ..... 74124  
Festval, Jn. police ..... 19  
Fire headquarters ..... 22010

### CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hamra Theatre ..... 226-448  
Al Sha'b Art Gallery ..... 228-527  
Time (in Arabic) ..... 99  
American Centre ..... 553-342  
Arab Cultural Centre ..... 333-727  
Bulgarian Cultural Centre ..... 557-401  
Czechoslovak Centre ..... 333-832  
Cultural Centre ..... 333-832  
French Cultural Centre ..... 338-494  
Khalvati Theatre ..... 223-816  
National Museum ..... 114-884

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 225-650  
Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 334-003  
Ukrain Art Gallery ..... 334-019  
Zakaria Public Library ..... 111-318  
West German Cultural Institute ..... 224-946

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government) ..... 99  
Chamber of Commerce ..... 118-339  
Electric Power Co. (repair) ..... 223-887  
Fire headquarters ..... 338-494  
Information ..... 91  
Municipal water service ..... 113-500

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## Based on absolute non-interference Rhodesia will adopt policy of co-existence towards South Africa

NEW YORK, March 25 (R) -- Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said in a television interview that Rhodesia would adopt a policy of co-existence towards white-ruled South Africa providing it refrained from interfering in Rhodesian internal affairs.

Mr. Mugabe, in an interview with the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), also said that although the Salisbury government had power to acquire land for redistribution and would use socialist principles in land resettlement. "We do not intend to seize any land that is being properly used, whether by blacks or whites."

He said: "In respect of South Africa, we will pursue a policy of non-interference in each other's affairs. As long as South Africa is prepared to refrain from interfering with our internal affairs, we shall accordingly reciprocate and not interfere in their internal affairs."

The South Africans had not directly expressed a desire for co-existence, "but from some of the statements they have made I think they have accepted the possibility of co-existence," he said.

Mr. Mugabe said South Africa's apartheid policy of racial separation was "abominable."

"But we accept that South Africa is a geographical reality. And as such we must have some minimum relationship with it."

Asked how he would respond to an appeal from South African blacks for help in doing what he had done in Rhodesia, Mr. Mugabe, who fought a seven-year guerrilla war against the white



— Robert Mugabe

minority government in Salisbury, said:

"Through the OAU (Organisation of African Unity), we shall pledge ourselves to doing all we can to assist the liberation struggle in South Africa. But as a single country we cannot be seen to be taking up arms against South Africa."

On the reported presence of South African troops in Rhodesia, he said: "I am under the impression just now that most have moved out. If any are still there, you can rest assured that they are on their way out."

Mr. Mugabe said he would apply Marxist, Christian and traditional African principles in Rhodesia when the British colony becomes independent Zimbabwe on April 18.

He said he wanted to ensure "equitable distribution of land. But we do not intend to seize any land that is being properly used. In other words, private farmers can continue... whether they be black or white."

## Argentina's rulers 'in no apparent hurry' to restore civilian control

BUENOS AIRES, March 25 (R) -- Argentina's military rulers yesterday celebrated their fourth anniversary in power, in no apparent hurry to hand back control to civilians.

To mark the occasion, the military announced the start of a

"dialogue" on the future government of Argentina with what they consider representative figures from the Catholic Church, trade unions, business and the emancipated political parties.

But General Jorge Videla's government has made clear that for the moment at least it will only talk with public figures in general agreement with the armed forces' plans.

"Do you think I would invite someone who disagrees with the armed forces' proposal on the first day?" Interior Minister General Albano Harguindeguy asked reporters recently.

The armed forces have insisted that they are planning to return to barracks when they feel it safe to do so and that they only booted out the crumbling civilian government in 1976 to prevent national collapse.

Despite success in restoring stability to this country of 26 million people and some headway on the economic front, President Videla's men have tricky problems to solve.

The first is what to do with "Isabel". The army's four years in power have meant four years in detention for ousted president Maria Estela Peron, known widely by the name she once used as a nightclub dancer.

Mrs. Peron, 49, under house arrest at an estate near Buenos Aires, still holds a special place with the massed ranks of the Peronist Party supporters as the widow of the late president, General Juan Peron.

Peronism has dominated names at the top of the National Unity Front list.

"The results confound the prediction of those groups who said they would be poor," the party spokesman said.

The Self-Defence Committee (KOR), Poland's most active dissident group, which said it distributed much of the anti-election propaganda, presented a formal complaint to the chief public prosecutor yesterday against harassment of its members.

KOR founder Mr. Jacek Kuron said the complaint listed 168 people arrested this month and ten cases in which dissidents were beaten by police.

## Scotland Yard: 'No progress' in hunt for £4m stolen silver

LONDON, March 25 (Agencies) -- Detectives investigating Britain's second biggest robbery in history -- £4 million silver heist yesterday in London's East End -- found two vehicles today believed used by the shotgun-wielding gang.

But Scotland Yard reported no progress in retrieving the ten tons of silver bars stolen by a seven-man gang in a minutely planned ambush.

Crime reporters said the hunt was on for an "underworld mole" who tipped off the gang to the shipment.

It was the biggest-ever bullion theft in Britain. The only crimes to compare with it were the great train robbery of 1963 when £2.6 million was stolen from a mail train, and a 1975 raid on the Bank of America's London office in which a gang got away with £7.5 million worth of jewelry, cash and valuables.

A white car in which two security guards accompanied the silver shipment and a blue van used by the gang were discovered today, while the hijacked truck containing the bullion was located abandoned overnight in the city's East End, ten kilometres from the scene of the robbery.

Mr. Vaughan Jeppesen, of the shipper's Jeppesen Heaton, said the bullion was bound for East Germany.

However, a spokesman at the East German embassy in London said he had no knowledge of

the shipment. "I only know what I have read in the papers," said First Secretary Karl Steiner.

In the raid in Barking, East London, a man dressed as a policeman waved down the truck carrying the silver ingots, and the driver and two security men following close behind stopped.

They were pounced on by six men armed with shotguns and bundled into the van which had pulled up behind.

The three vehicles were driven off and the captured men tied up and left in a locked garage in Deptford, southeast London. They managed to free themselves and raise the alarm.

A dealer on the London metal market said the first thing the crooks were likely to do was melt the bars down to destroy identifying marks on the 321 stolen ingots.

"How they would dispose of them after that, I'm not sure. Obviously we would be very suspicious of anyone who did not normally work on the metal market walking into a dealer and offering a stock of silver bars for sale, and I cannot see them going into hundreds of jewellers with small amounts."

Detectives said the thieves could expect to dispose of yesterday's haul easily on the large bullion black market. With the decline in the value of paper money, precious metals have become an increasingly sought-after commodity.

## Over 500 Europeans evacuated from Chad as fighting continues in capital

PARIS, March 25 (R) -- French paratroops evacuated more than 500 Europeans from Chad yesterday as fighting continued among rival factions in the capital, N'Djamena, official sources said today.

They said over 200 French and foreign civilians, including a large number of Americans, were flown to neighbouring Cameroon, and 284 civilians were evacuated in a convoy of more than 100 vehicles under military escort to northern Cameroon.

Despite an agreed ceasefire, forces loyal to President Goukouni Oueddei and those loyal to Defence Minister Hissene Habre continued to fight for positions in the city centre, the sources said.

"There is no way to confirm the number of casualties," one official said. "The fighting is now sporadic, but intense for position on the streets."

French radio reports have said

700 people were killed during three days of fighting, but the Foreign Ministry said yesterday the figure had originated in Bonn and should be treated with caution.

The sources said the city was still under intermittent attack from the south by forces loyal to a third faction led by Vice-President Abdelkader Wadal Kumougue, whose troops had failed two nights ago to force their way across the bridge over the Chari River and into the city.

But his forces were still within range of the city and firing on positions across the river.

The only casualties among the European civilians were two priests, one French and one Italian, who were slightly wounded on Sunday, the sources said.

Numerous factions have fought for power in Chad since it became independent from France in 1960.

The country's four-million population is about equally divided between Christians in the south and Muslims in the north. Leaders of the Christian community ruled until last year, when a Muslim government assumed power.

In Cameroon, a French evacuee said today more than 700 people have been killed in fighting between rival troops in N'Djamena.

He also told Reuters that European districts of the city had been left in ruins by artillery and mortar duels.

ETA guerrillas last week killed a soldier in an abortive Madrid bomb attack on an army general.

But the latest Basque country killings were the first in a month in the region, which elected its first home-rule parliament on March 9.

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## El Salvador mourns slain archbishop

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, March 25 (AP) -- El Salvador's military-civilian junta today ordered three days of national mourning for Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero and vowed to track down the gunmen who assassinated the outspoken advocate of social reform as he celebrated mass.

The 62-year-old Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Salvador, a leading critic of military repression and of all political violence, was shot in the chest last night as he was raising the chalice at the altar in the chapel of the Hospital of Divine Providence, an institution he established for terminal cancer patients.

A radio station said four gunmen invaded the chapel. No group claimed responsibility for the shooting, but right-wing guerrillas were suspected.

At the Vatican, Pope John Paul denounced the killing as "sacrilegious" and said it represented an attack on "the dignity of man in the cruelest manner. I can't but express my most profound rebuke."

Other world leaders sent their condolences and expressed shock at the killing.

Mr. Enrique Morales Erlich, a civilian member of the ruling junta which embarked on an economic reform programme early this month, said the killers would be "sought by authorities until they are found and punished."

Guerrillas of both the right and left have been fighting the junta's reform programme, the leftists because they want to establish a socialist government and the rightists because they want to restore

control of the country to the landed oligarchy and its military allies.

As soon as radio announcements of the assassination were broadcast, thousands ran through the streets of the capital to the homes, fearing new violence. About 1,000 persons went to a hospital where the archbishop was taken after he was shot.

A nun who said she was among about 125 people in the chapel told the Associated Press the archbishop was facing the congregation and "had just raised the chalice when we heard a sound like an explosion, like a bomb," and Archbishop Romero fell on his back.

She said she did not see assassin or know where the assassin had come from.

Meanwhile, in neighbouring Guatemala, police said today that prominent lawyer and his wife were ambushed in downtown Guatemala City. And in La Paz, the capital of Bolivia, thousands turned out for the funeral of a Roman Catholic priest who died of a left-leaning newspaper.

A bullet-riddled body of Rev. Espinal was found Saturday. The government blamed the killing on "para-military terrorists."

Archbishop Romero's demands for equality and justice for El Salvador's poor, delivered in his day sermons, turned the usual right wing against him. But faith and insistence on violence made enemies among the militants as well.

He continually criticised violence from the left and right, which has resulted in the death of an estimated 600 persons a year. But in a recent sermon said most of the dead were peasants killed by the military.

Half a dozen priests have been assassinated in El Salvador right-wing hit squads in the two-and-a-half years.

He took his seat on the ancient marble throne of Saint Augustin but immediately disowned the pageantry of one of Britain's most colourful national events.

The 58-year-old archbishop told the biggest and most representative congregation ever assembled in Canterbury Cathedral that Christianity was better expressed by the work done for the poor by Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the Roman Catholic nun who won 1979 Nobel Peace Prize.

Turning to a black churchman, Mr. Beazeri Ndabura, who inaugurated as Anglican Archbishop of French-speaking Africa, will attend in May, he said that open-air enthronement would be different -- "No cathedral, let alone trumpets there."

Archbishop Runcie added: "It may be that the simple service, which I will go in Africa will prove more eloquent about the untold story in which the church should live now."

The new primate of all England and honorary leader of the world's nearly 70 million Anglicans then turned to five Roman Catholic cardinals, bearded Eastern Orthodox churchmen and leading Protestant divines to deliver his appeal for Christian unity.

"It fills my heart with great hope to see so many Christian leaders assembled here, from every part of the globe. The vitality of spiritual energy represented here could be a great force for peace and social justice," he said.

"Much is being done already but we are hampered by our divisions and the world-wide Christian Church will not be able to speak with one voice until it speaks with one voice."

Formerly Bishop of Saint Albans, north of London, the new archbishop entered the church after serving as a tank officer in World War Two. He was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry during allied advance into Nazi Germany.

As a symbol of the increasing effort being made to mend relations between Rome and Canterbury following their rift in the 16th century, Cardinal Basil Hume, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, delivered one of the Bible readings.

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## After two weeks' public absence

## Brezhnev, Kosygin fail to attend parliament session

MOSCOW, March 25 (R) -- President Leonid Brezhnev and Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin failed to appear today at the opening session of the newly-elected Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

Both men are deputies of the Soviet parliament of the country's largest republic, and were expected to attend after about two weeks' absence from the public scene.

Soviet sources said they might appear later, but had no explanation of their absence from the opening session, which was attended by only five members of the Communist Party's ruling 14-man politburo.

Another senior absentee was 77-year-old ideologist Mr. Mikhail Suslov.

Mr. Kosygin, 76, who only last month reappeared in public after a long illness, was said by informed sources to have been due to head the Kremlin side at talks last week in Moscow with a delegation from Nicaragua.

The talks concentrated on Soviet economic aid to the new Nicaraguan Government, and Mr. Kosygin has handled such discussions himself in the past.

## USSR said preparing for new space mission

MOSCOW, March 25 (R) -- The Soviet Union is planning a new manned space mission early next month, Soviet sources said today. Two Soviet cosmonauts are expected to be launched aboard a new version of the Soyuz spacecraft for an extended mission around the Earth.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda today hinted that the way was clear for a new manned mission following a successful unmanned test of the Soyuz-T, the latest model of the two-man spacecraft.

Soyuz-T was undocked from the Soyuz-6 station yesterday after 99 days in flight, during which its modified rockets and control systems were tested. The major innovation of the Soyuz-T is the presence for the first time of an onboard computer, designed to make it virtually independent of ground control.

Pravda quoted engineers at ground control as saying the new craft had passed its tests with flying colours, but would only get its "diploma" after making a flight with a crew on board.

The computer with its video terminal and two memory banks will free future cosmonauts from the chore of learning by heart huge quantities of technical data before each flight.

Essential technical documentation will no longer be carried on board in printed form but will be stored in the computer, Pravda said. The computer will make the spacecraft less dependent on ground control for proceeding data and working out manoeuvres in space.

Designers of the system told Pravda it had been tested for a year before the launch and had operated during the flight without any problems.

The Soyuz-6 space station, weighing 19 tonnes, was launched in September 1977 and has played host to three marathon missions. The last and longest was the record-breaking 175-day flight by cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valery Ryumin which ended last August.

## Poland announces record election turnout despite boycott campaign

WARSAW, March 25 (R) -- Poland's communist rulers announced a resounding election victory last night and said the turnout was bigger than the last poll in spite of a dissident campaign for a boycott.

The official news agency PAP said 98.87 per cent of the electorate turned out to vote in Sunday's elections for the parliament, compared with 98.27 per cent in the last general elections in 1976.

PAP said 13,692 voters out of 24,816,304 cast invalid ballots and 99.52 per cent of those voting supported the officially-nominated candidates for the communist-controlled National Unity Front. In 1976 the official

candidates won 99.43 per cent of the vote.

"The outcome of the results proves that the community is immune to the slogans of dissidents," a senior party spokesman said.

Dissidents, who argued that the election was a propaganda exercise, distributed some 300,000 leaflets in an unprecedented campaign urging Poles not to vote.

Election turnouts have been high in Poland since the communists took power here after the Second World War.

An analysis of the official figures given by PAP showed that 120,556 people exercised their right to cross out one or more

names at the top of the National Unity Front list.

"The results confound the prediction of those groups who said they would be poor," the party spokesman said.

The Self-Defence Committee (KOR), Poland's most active dissident group, which said it distributed much of the anti-election propaganda, presented a formal complaint to the chief public prosecutor yesterday against harassment of its members.

KOR founder Mr. Jacek Kuron said the complaint listed 168 people arrested this month and ten cases in which dissidents were beaten by police.

## Putting Turkey's economy back together

ANKARA -- Members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) will meet in Paris tomorrow to pledge how much they will give financially-ailing Turkey in credit under what terms and how soon.

The meeting will be a direct result of the efforts of West German Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer, assigned by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to coordinate a Western economic aid programme to Turkey.

Mr. Matthöfer shuttled between Bonn, Paris, Washington and Tokyo to persuade OECD members to give more to Turkey in credits and to expect less urgent repayments.

The Iranian revolution, followed by the developments in Afghanistan, has focused the

attention of the West on Turkey, a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) member, sharing joint borders with Iran and the Soviet Union.

As a matter of domestic politics, the size and scope of the projected Western aid will be important enough to make or break the right-wing government of Premier Süleyman Demirel, who came to power last November for the sixth time in 15 years, after generous promises to the people.

The Turks, numbed by a harsh winter spent with almost no oil for heating and a severe shortage of most basic goods, will want to see results instead of promises.

Serious efforts to help Turkey over its staggering economic troubles began last year at the January Guadeloupe meeting of the United States, Britain, West Germany and France.

But although a total of \$1.5 billion of credits were pledged by OECD countries following the summit, over half of this never materialised as most of the donors tied their credits to import con-

ditions which still have to be sorted out.

Mr. Matthöfer said in Ankara last month that Turkey would benefit from a Western aid programme "qualitatively and quantitatively superior to last year's."

He did not give any figures but said he envisaged a programme of several years, possibly five.

Premier Demirel, however, said recently Turkey had "found at least \$3 billion external financing to balance its 1980 payments, pay back outstanding debts and meet the requirements of the economy."

The breakdown of this total, according to Mr. Demirel, is as follows: \$1.6 billion from the OECD countries, a further \$600 million through a debt rescheduling programme, \$305 million from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and \$500 million from the World Bank, mostly in project and programme credits.

Turkey's immediate needs and expectations from the Paris meeting are clear. The country, staggering under \$15 billion of external debts, needs at least \$3 billion

this year alone to make ends meet. Part of this will flow right back to the West to pay for Turkey's previous debts and the rest will be used for crucial imports like oil and fertilisers.

Turkey must increase its production and export revenues to break its chronic shortage of foreign currency. Otherwise, no matter how much Western cash flows in, it will mostly be channelled back as repayments.

Finance Ministry sources here said the government would like to see Turkey's debt repayment obligations spread over a nine-year term with a five-year grace period.

The Turkish Government will also have done well if it can persuade donor countries to change their minds about giving conditional credits.

This and a favourable rescheduling programme will most likely fulfil the Demirel administration's expectations.

But one Western diplomat here said although Western governments were willing to help

build a strong Turkey on NATO's southeastern flank, they more and more seeing the situation as a "bottomless well."

They were weary of seeing cash disappear while repayments were getting more and more difficult, he said.

Mr. Demirel's economic package unveiled last January drew generally approving remarks from the West.

The measures, which include 33 per cent devaluation of Turkish lira against the dollar, brought between 100 and 400 per cent price increases on most goods and services.

Although in line with the government's policy of stabilising prices free of state controls on the domestic market, did not please the average earner.

With vital tax reform laws stalled in parliament, the earner is crushed under the den of soaring prices and continuing shortages.

REUTERS